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There will be showers today.

PRESIDENT HARRISON.

It is quite evident that unless a political revolution intervenes, both Harrison and Cleveland will be re-nominated. In the former's case it is not a logical sequence that he should be re-nominated. While he has incurred the displeasure of some few politicians by his sturdy independence in dealing with matters where a difference of opinion existed, he has given the country a firm, vigorous and determined administration, and in doing so has established a confidence in his administration that cannot be shaken by threatened tampering with existing legislation. On every question before the people he is unyieldingly radical and pronounced in view. He rose to the emergency confronting him when the Chilean matter threatened war, and asserted our position with dignity and power. On the silver question he has firmly maintained his course in case he shall be called upon to recognize a bill providing for free coinage. It is unlikely that he will be called upon to veto such a measure, but public confidence is strengthened by the assurance that he will do so if the opportunity be given. It has been under his administration that the McKinley bill has been put to the test. Its wise and salutary provisions have been demonstrated beyond cavil. In the very heart of the commerce battle strong and steady and the whole body politic is energized by unexampled activity in every industry, it is not more than just to claim that it has been achieved under the wise administration of President Harrison. It appears that this view is taken by the great mass of republicans throughout the country. From the Washington despatch printed this morning the conclusion can only be drawn that Mr. Harrison will receive the nomination on the first ballot in the Minneapolis convention.

EFFECTIVELY ORGANIZED.

One of the most effective and quiet agencies for disseminating wholesome information in relation to the policy of protection and in support of republican principles is the League of Republican Clubs, of which the Hon. John Patton of this city is president. The work of organization has been prosecuted with vigor, and today there are branch clubs in nearly every county of the state. Mr. Patton is an effective organizer and understands the necessity for keeping alive the interest and enthusiasm in the work. As president of the league he holds himself aloof from partisanship in the preliminary skirmishes for preferment, and as between rival candidates maintains a strict and dignified neutrality. The mission of the league is to educate rather than to dictate, and this is lost sight of in no time of excitement or of party enthusiasm. During the coming campaign the value of this organization will be strongly tested. It will shoulder the responsibility of putting before every voter reliable information concerning the issues of the opposing parties. To do this will require close and studied application, but the execution of the trust is in the hands of thoroughly competent men, and it will suffer no neglect. Mr. Patton is the champion of the young man in politics, and will zealously labor to bring him into prominence during the campaign.

CLEVELAND'S POPULARITY.

Mr. Cleveland's popularity with the democrats is in some respects strangely inconsistent. By virtue of his obstinate disposition to have his own way he has launched his celebrated tariff letter against the protests of his friends in December, 1883, and the following November the voters launched an avalanche of votes against him and he was defeated. Since then a republican congress passed a protective tariff. Before it had been in practical operation a month and following a period of business unrest, an election was held and the democrats secured an overwhelming majority in the house. Cleveland's personal strength of character, so-called, and his political influence were not introduced into that campaign to carry the congressional elections. The feeling of insecurity contributed to make the people regard the McKinley bill with distrust and upon the fear of alien alarm the democrats rode into office. Not a single one of the alleged principles exemplified by Cleveland was a leading feature, unless it be possible that his radical free trade heresies might have had weight. It was neither his personality nor his political greatness that measured the success of his party. Today he stands for no well defined principle. He is the embodiment of compromise and unprincipled expediency. His public expressions lack vitality. He has never said anything that rises above the dignity of triteness. His speeches lack pungency, wit and logic. He is a big man and stands in an opening, shutting out the view beyond himself. If he has a quality of mind or heart in this ideal of democracy, not possessed

by a thousand inconspicuous democrats, it is because his huge egoism darkens the hole through which they may be seen. In intelligence, candor and single mindedness the democracy contains a score of prominent men who are worthy to be honored, and yet the popularity of Grover is so great that other men's names sink into oblivion when his is spoken. When history shall have placed him at his true worth, he will shine as the smallest of men who ever crowded the capacity of the executive chair.

OUR CANDIDATE.

It is surprising that the friends of Mr. Rich should manifest so much feeling because the friends of Mr. Pingree insist that he has a right to aspire to the governorship. It is not to the discredit of Mr. Rich that he has a competitor so popular and well qualified for the position. Under almost any circumstances the contest between the two men would be characterized by the friendliest rivalry, but unfortunately Chairman McMillan has introduced a factor into the canvass so unusual as to provoke the righteous indignation of every honest republican, and it should not be a matter for adverse criticism if the friends of Mr. Pingree resent the intrusion in forcible terms. It is the desire of every true republican that the strongest and best man shall be nominated. If it be Mr. Rich he will receive a cordial support from loyal republicans everywhere. It must not be taken for granted, however, that the friends of Mr. Pingree, who is the peer of Mr. Rich, will refrain from advocating his cause because the number of Mr. Rich's supporters is greater, or because Senator McMillan has decreed that he shall be nominated. All the supporters of Mr. Pingree insist that he shall have fair play. He cannot have fair play if Chairman McMillan is to use his official position to prejudice federal office holders. It may be satisfying to disguise the unpleasant fact that he is doing so, but Mr. Pingree's friends will not be denied the privilege of condemning the unwarranted interference and demanding that preconceived arrangements shall be ignored. The spontaneous choice of the state convention will be championed by THE HERALD, no matter who he may be, if his republicanism be staunch and loyal.

One of the most striking parallels or pen and ink pictures is that drawn by Lawrence Hutton of Bruiser Sullivan going through the south upon a professional tour, riding in parlor cars, lodging in choice rooms at the best hotels, and Frederick Douglass going over the same ground in second-class cars, dining in dens as if he were a contemner and came of a contaminating race. The former is characterized as the "incarnation of brutality," the latter as "a talented, educated and refined gentleman, whose name will grow in the history of the nation as a heroic figure, while the other will only be remembered for a short time after his demise as a drunkard, ruffian and slinger."

As a result of the Reading combine coal has advanced 25 cents. This means to New York, Brooklyn, Jersey City and Staten Island, where 6,000,000 tons are consumed annually, a tax equal to \$1,500,000. Yet but a few weeks ago an interested public was assured by the president of the combine in a labored article that the move was really a benefit to the public. Perhaps so, but a suffering public may be excused if they fail to look at the matter in the same light the president of the combine professes to view it in. It has too much an appearance of the old game, heads I win, tails you lose.

MYRON TARBOR, editor and proprietor of The Jackson Star, was in the city yesterday. Some fifteen years ago he owned and edited a paper here. He speaks in glowing terms of the beauty and growth of Grand Rapids, and feels for it a native fondness that would woe him back were he not so well and prosperously situated at home. Mr. Tarbor is one of those chivalrous and kindly men whose heart is as sympathetic as a child's. He has a clear head which directs an astute and facile pen. He is a true and generous friend.

HENRY WATSON and his "star-eyed goddess" have declared that the nomination of Grover Cleveland for the democratic party would be political suicide. Mr. Watson's opposition is based on Mr. Cleveland's views in regard to a free coinage of silver. This is a virtual admission that a man who believes in a sound, honest currency and who has the courage of his convictions, is entirely out of sympathy with the dominant sentiment of democracy and can never hope to be a leader of the party.

Those who aspire to become correspondents to sensational sheets should first read the account of a far and feather bee held in Oshkosh a few days ago, and then conclude to court notoriety in some less dangerous way. Said facts, plainly stated, furnish the best sensation, but when a writer resorts to innuendo, insinuation and positive insults, outraged citizens will be excused if they unceremoniously and roughly ride the writer out of the city.

Next January Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, the Swedish explorer, will start upon the ever dangerous and perilous trip to the north pole. The companions of the doctor will be Captain Sverdrup, a relative of the late Norwegian prime minister, Lieutenant Scott Hansen, an astronomical expert, and Captain Ingebrigtsen, a fearless navigator, who has before gone on perilous expeditions.

It was with feelings of relief the world learns that the latest divine paragon comes not from Heaven, but from the Garden of Eden. A Testaceous negro named Menelaus claims,

among other things, to be a Zulu king, is said to wear a red shirt, a Turkish fez, and an ivory ring in his nose. If he would now put on a fig leaf his costume would be complete and his identity fully established.

That Grand Rapids is a natural center was illustrated yesterday by the presence of so many delegates en route to the Muskegon convention. There is no point in the state, unless it be Jackson, so easily accessible from all parts as this city is. To locate conventions in little towns remote from lines of travel is to add expense and inconvenience to the delegates.

Since Jay Gould unlocked his purse strings and began giving his checks in aid of charitable objects, he has apparently forgotten how again to tie the hangman's knot by which he has heretofore hung so tightly to his dollars. His latest bequest was \$1000 to the actors' fund fair.

When alarming previousness the democrats passed the Free Trade bill Monday. They didn't wait for a minority report but drummed in a quorum and hurried it through. It will now go to sleep in the senate only to be aroused for campaign purposes this fall.

The Leavenworth, Kansas, Young Men's Christian association has been made the recipient of a valuable collection of curios, mementos, books, relics and other interesting historical objects by the collector and donor, Gen. J. A. Halderman.

EX-SPEAKER REED is said to mount and ride a bicycle with as much grace and ease as he mounts and rides one of Speaker Crisp's peculiar relics. In neither instance does he stop short of the point intended.

If it is true, as reported, that John J. Ingalls will refuse to be a candidate for congressman-at-large, it must not be supposed that this is because of his stature. It simply indicates the innate modesty of the man.

The St. Joseph Herald names Lawrence Fyfe to be the candidate for congress of the republicans of the Fourth district. Mr. Fyfe is a resident of St. Joe and an enterprising man.

Last evening's Muskegon Chronicle solemnly announced that today that city will be "full of democrats." Will it kindly inform us what the democrats will be full of?

The latest rumor is that Don M. Dickinson—our own Don—will make his debut as a silver-tongued orator at the Chicago convention, and will nominate Cleveland.

Don M. is the proudest chieftain that ever led a victorious clan on to battle. He will win the day without the shedding of a tear or a drop of gore for his idol Grover.

ANTI-LOTTERY FOSTER, as he is called in Louisiana, will insist that the lottery has passed its ante and must now step out of the game.

CITY HALL NOTES.

The New Men in the Old Offices—Other Points.

City Treasurer Sorrick has thoroughly informed himself as to the ins and outs of the office, and is now ready for any rush that may come. He wishes it understood that whatever of public interest transpires in his office will be cheerfully given to the press. He says that he finds the affairs of the office in a state of confusion. Several of weights and measures Launier has placed the books and reports of his work in the best of order, and is waiting for the axe to fall. The new member of the board of revenue, George E. Cogshall, is not content with lack of attention from his colleagues. They tell him that experience is the best school, and throw a few more rolls on his table. He was frowning away at them all of yesterday.

Silence reigns in the apartments of the board of police and fire commissioners. The blue coats that have thronged the rooms during the past fortnight are gone, and the occupants of the third floor have nothing to break the monotony of municipal grid. "Politics didn't put me in here," said Engineer Putnam of the city hall yesterday. Then he murmured softly, "And I hope they won't put me out." Dr. Bradford of the board of health is receiving numerous replies from the various physicians to whom he sent circulars, asking for information on the origin and cause of the many cases of typhoid fever. The consensus of opinion is that typhoid fever is not communicable or malarial origin, supplemented by impure water, bad drainage and in some cases by unsanitary surroundings. Several physicians give it as their opinion that these malarial germs are contagious. Dr. Bodine took the oath of office as city physician yesterday morning.

Across Pearl Street Bridge. The Cherry street cars will run over Pearl street bridge instead of to the north end, beginning this morning. The horse cars will run as a transfer line from the corner of Gold and Shawmut avenue to the Butterworth avenue connected. On Sunday the Cherry street cars will run through to John Park. The North Park cars will start from the corner of Lyon and Canal streets until the new Reed's Lake line is completed.

Will Read These.

The twenty-seventh annual meeting of the State Medical society will be held at Flint, beginning Tuesday and continuing until Friday evening. Papers will be read by Dr. C. Graves, C. H. Johnston, F. J. Groner, D. E. Welch, R. Peterson, E. K. Rowe of this city. These gentlemen will leave for Flint this evening.

Funeral of Mrs. Allen. The funeral of Mrs. Mary Ann Allen, wife of the late Dr. S. W. Allen, who died Monday evening, aged 85 years, will occur at 3 o'clock p. m. tomorrow from the residence of C. M. Alden, No. 277 Seneca street.

Will Elect Officers. The annual meeting of the Women's auxiliary to the Y. M. C. A. will be

held in the association parlors this afternoon at 4 o'clock. Considerable business of importance will be brought before the meeting, including in which will be the election of officers for the ensuing year. The ladies request a large attendance.

Church Dedication.

The new Holland Congregational church building on West corner street will be dedicated Sunday at 9:30 a. m. The morning services will be held by the pastor, the Rev. J. W. Pugh, in the Holland language, and at 2:30 in the English language. Pastors of the city Congregational churches have been invited to assist.

Incorporated a Religious Body.

Articles of incorporation were filed in the office of the county clerk by Jacob Fisher, Jacob Solinsky and others. The name of the corporate body will be "Congregation Beth Israel." Its object is purely religious. At the first election Hyman Abraham Silverman and Simon Simon were elected trustees.

Collided with an Ice Wagon.

An electric car was derailed on South Division street yesterday afternoon by colliding with an ice wagon. Several cakes of ice were thrown on the street and the corner of the car was slightly broken. It required half an hour to replace the car, and seven cars were detained by the accident. No one was injured.

Benefit Ball.

A benefit ball will be given for Alphonso A. Amos in Germania hall, Friday evening, May 13. Amos had been a sufferer for several years from a swelling in the knee joint, which made it necessary for him to use a leg last February. The proceeds will be expended for a cork leg.

PRESIDENT MORE'S ADDRESS.

He Reviews the Police and Fire Departments.

On account of the pressure of matter the annual address of President More to the board of police and fire commissioners was given a brief notice yesterday morning. It appears in full appended:

GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD.—The time of my retirement from service upon the board has arrived, and by virtue of the time honored custom, I claim your attention for a few words of farewell. During my term of service the departments under the control of this board have steadily grown in numbers and in efficiency. The total cost of the departments has increased from \$63,355.49 to \$176,390.57, as estimated. In 1887 there were seventy-six men in the fire department and fifty-seven in the police department. Now there are 100 in the former and eighty-seven in the latter.

So long as the city enjoys the rapid and substantial growth it has experienced in the past, the size and cost of these departments and the duties and responsibilities of this board must necessarily increase. The cost of these departments is a large item in the annual budget, and it is not uncommon for taxpayers to complain of it. It may, however, be safely said that in no city of like size in the country is life and property better protected and a better order preserved at less cost than in this city. It will, doubtless, be the aim of this board in the future, as in the past, to spend the moneys committed to its custody with judgment and economy, and to secure the highest degree of efficiency in the departments at the least cost to the taxpayers.

The board has been in the past, and so long as it continues to perform its duty will be subject to severe and unjust criticism in words and in deed. The function of this department is to enforce the law. In attempting to discharge this function it stands between two fires. If it fails to enforce the law it is guilty of neglecting its duty, and if it enforces the law it is bitterly attacked by the law breakers and their sympathizers. But little difficulty arises from the execution of the law against the more serious crimes and offenses, such as murder, burglary, larceny, etc., but the police officers are few in number and have few friends. It is the enforcement of the laws relating to the liquor traffic and prohibiting gambling and prostitution which give the police department and the board most trouble. The offenders against the laws are numerous, and they have many sympathizers and apologists of influence.

The state wisely prohibited the liquor traffic and reduced the penalty to a minimum. Since my connection with the board its policy has been to enforce these regulations, and the attempt to do this has met with the hearty approval and support of a very large majority of the citizens of all political parties and with bitter opposition of a few persons engaged in the business, who find their profit in persistent and continued violation of the law. The board has and this opposition to the highest with from the start, and will receive the hearty commendation of a very large majority of our citizens. The experience of all large communities is that gambling and prostitution cannot be effectively prohibited. (In a recent year the police department of Grand Rapids presents to the world may be cited the organized force of the Western Union Telegraph company, which knows no sleep or sorrows of its laborers. Relieving hours of duty make the service continuous, and our local enterprises are thereby placed in constant and instant contact with the commercial pulse of the world. The day force is superintended by that able electrician and popular gentleman, J. V. Mehen, manager, while at night, Chief Operator D. M. Picard occupies the official throne with equal efficiency. The assistants respectively for day and night are: William Fry, day chief operator and John Putnam, Charles L. Halbert and J. J. McConnell and H. G. Farrell. These are all time tested and accomplished operators with established reputations for speed and accuracy or on the way to become so. It is a source of pleasure to pay a passing tribute to the valuable service rendered by the telegraph company as it is in the Valley City, N. D.

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SIGHTS ON THE SUN.

The ancients who believed that the sun was a smooth and spotless as a golden mirror would be unpeakably astonished if they could see it as it has appeared when viewed with telescopes during the past few years. Two large spots, or rather rows of spots, which are not visible near the center of the disk, have exhibited to a wonderful degree the terrific effects of the explosive and cyclonic forces that are now, month by month, gathering greater energy upon the sun. Holes large enough to swallow up the earth with plenty of room to spare have been formed there in the sight of the astronomer, shining down like bridges of fire, the spotted

city from the disgrace of permitting disorder, riot and bloodshed to go unchecked and unopposed. I leave the departments in a good state of discipline and efficiency.

The fire department is well housed and well equipped; the officers and men are worthy of the highest praise for the prompt, fearless and conscientious service they render the city. The personnel of this department is exceptionally good; the appearance and deportment of the men, their attention to duty and efficiency, cannot be surpassed in any police department in this or any other state. Some jealousies existed among the men, and from time to time breaches of discipline are brought to the attention of the board. This will always occur in such bodies of men, but just and prompt action by the board will maintain the high standard of discipline and efficiency which has so long distinguished this department.

In conclusion, I thank you, gentlemen of the board, for the uniform courtesy and consideration shown me by your presiding officer, and while I am not able to escape the duties and responsibilities of the office, I much regret the approaching end of the pleasant official relations which have existed between us, and I assure you that you will ever have my sympathy and support in the performance of the duties which devolve upon the board. The police department, which has been compelled to put up with wretched accommodations, will soon occupy the new central station, which is nearly completed, and which will be a boon to the department and a credit to the city.

AMUSEMENTS.

Powers-James O'Neill.

Mr. O'Neill drew a fine audience last evening, which gave undoubted evidence of appreciation of his gallant and heroic impersonation of Edmond Dante in "Monte Cristo." THE HERALD has considered this performance on the occasion of previous engagements, and at only necessary to repeat the constant repetition of the role has neither made Mr. O'Neill careless or indifferent, and his treatment of it is still marked with strong evidence of fervor as well as artistic finish to the minutest detail. The scenes were effectively and effects established the production. Mr. O'Neill has in chief support, Howard Gould and Grace Ranan.

General Mention.

Manager Charles H. Garwood will be here today and tonight will play a benefit at Powers' Grand. The play, "A Modern Husband," is a comedy in two acts, and is a masterpiece of wit and pun, and the situation is hilarious and thoroughly laughable. The plot of the comedy is as follows: In order to enjoy "A Modern Husband," and come away feeling that he has got his money's worth, the spectator must be ready to swallow everything without question. The husband, Prof. Brittlewig, is a man of the first two acts as a crank of the first water, a raving maniac on the subject of chemical discoveries. He is everlastingly experimenting to find an explosive that will revolutionize the world. He seems to be rich, for he is surrounded by a retinue of servants and assistants, his parlors are elegantly furnished and money seems to be plentiful, but in the next room to the parlor is some infernal laboratory where explosions are constantly happening, and the professor has no use for anything but business. He sleeps as little as possible, eats on the run, and when he marries he does so only to obtain a housekeeper, and delays the marriage until he can make certain experiments on the parlor table with a lot of bottles which he has brought along in a grip sack for that purpose. After marriage he treats his wife shamefully, calls her a housekeeper, and finally declares that he will get a divorce. This is the situation at the end of the second act, when the professor makes his great discovery of manufacturing diamonds by the bushel. In the third act, after selling his discovery for \$10,000,000, he suddenly becomes exactly the opposite of his former self. He is well dressed, is everloppish; he spends money recklessly on wine and women; boasts of the number of conquests he makes and the amount of champagne he can drink; has a disgraceful flirtation and champagne supper with a woman with whom he is picked up on the train; and finally manages to fall in love with his own wife, and gives her a deed of his whole fortune.

Adas Gray drew another large audience at Redmond's last night.

The olio at Smith's this week is unusually bright and entertaining. A matinee will be given today.

The sale of seats to the public for the concert to be given in Hartman's hall next Monday night by the grand Symphony orchestra will begin this morning.

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HEATING THE EARTH.

The highest velocity ever given to a cannon ball is estimated at a mile in 3.3 seconds. The velocity of the earth at the equator, due to its rotation on its axis, is a mile in 3.6 seconds. Therefore, if a cannon ball were fired due west, and could maintain its initial velocity, it would beat the sun in its apparent journey round the earth.

POINTS ABOUT GEMS.

Old Things Shown by an Expert in Precious Stones. Dr. Kunz, the expert in precious stones, whose remarks on diamonds and American gems at the meeting of the mining engineers in St. Louis were recently printed, had with him on that occasion a couple of little wooden boxes containing a collection of rare gems which he had recently gathered in the Ural mountain region of Russia. He had stones more precious than diamonds, because they command higher prices. The most notable were the green garnets, as small as kernels of popcorn, but blazing with green fire. They are bought, not as curios, but by those who want to wear them, and sell for more than diamonds of the same size. Dr. Kunz exhibited some which were worth more than one thousand dollars apiece. Another curiosity in the collection was a blue topaz. The doctor exhibited rubies which glowed like live coals, and remarked of the American rubies that some of them had the red-fire color. He had in his collection the largest piece of Hungarian opal found since 1888. It goes into the private collection of a wealthy American gentleman, and will remain untaken. The mass of pink and green and cream-colored flame is three-fourths of an

ounce of the great flame-like phenomenon which projects hundreds of miles over the edges of the seemingly black and bottomless pits have given evidence of the operation of a mighty whirling power, and the puncturing of the bright disk with crowds of comparatively small black holes has shown that over hundreds of thousands of square miles of the solar surface a tremendous rain of ejected matter is falling back upon the blazing photosphere.

Yet the changes that these outbursts are able to effect in the solar light and heat bear so small a proportion to the whole radiative energy of the sun that it is still an open question whether the earth feels them to a perceptible degree or not. It is only when the sun bursts out with such overwhelming might as was exhibited by the famous star in Cassiopeia in 1572, or by a star in Cygnus in 1678, or by a star in Andromeda in 1885, that the planets dwelling around it are swept with fire. There is no known reason to believe that our sun will behave in that manner, at least in our time, and so everybody can enjoy the marvelous spectacle of the sunspots without apprehension for their consequences.

TO TELL THE AGE.

A Mysterious, Yet Simple Process of Figuring It Out.

"Give me a list of the names of the men in any city or town in this country, and even without having seen or heard of them, I will tell you half their ages," said a prominent citizen to a Punxsutawney Spirit reporter. "How can you do that?" asked an incredulous bystander.

"Simply by the initials of their names. In the first place, you must remember that about half of the male population of this country have been named after presidents of the United States or candidates for president, and all you have to know is to know when these presidential candidates were at the zenith of their popularity. Of course exceptions must be made of George Washington and Andrew Jackson, for people have not quit naming their boys after these illustrious men to this day.

"For instance, here is the name of W. H. Johnson—William Henry Harrison was elected president in 1840, consequently Mr. Johnson is about fifty-three years old. Here is W. Scott Smith—Winfield Scott ran for President in 1853. Smith is therefore about thirty-seven years old. The next name on the list is A. L. North—Abraham Lincoln was elected president in 1860. Mr. North is therefore about twenty-eight years of age. Now take the next—M. F. Smith—Millard Fillmore was a candidate for president in 1856. M. F. Smithers is, therefore, in all probability, about thirty-three years old. And so on. By studying the Christian names of men you can figure out the ages of many of them very closely."

THE MATING SEASON.

In the Spring Young Couples Begin Their Love Making.

At the theater the other night, says a writer in an eastern paper, I had more than one illustration of the fact that "in the spring the young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love." I was almost literally surrounded by affectionate couples. I once heard a man say that it was a perfect delight for him to watch the little movements and subtleties of a woman would invent to enable her to touch as much as the coat sleeve of the man she loved, but I can assure these observations were never made at the theater, as there the shoe is on the other foot, as the saying goes. Most women have a horror of even the slightest display of affection in public on the part of their husbands, or those who shortly will occupy that position. With a man it is different; he sometimes almost forgets where he is. Two quite young doves sat directly in front of me the evening of which I speak; the girl held herself as erect as a soldier, but the man would ever and anon change his position so that his arm would be possible touch her. Another pair a few seats further down attracted a good deal of attention. Between the acts the man, not content to look at his companion out of one eye, as it were, twisted himself around and, leaning his elbow on an empty seat in front, was not satisfied until he could look the girl square in the face.

Imitations of Gold.

One of the best imitations of gold that has yet been made consists of 100 parts of pure copper, 14 of tin, 6 of magnesia, 35 of sal ammoniac, 18 of quicklime and 9 of cream of tartar. To the melted copper the magnesia, sal ammoniac, quicklime and cream of tartar are added in this order, each in the form of a powder. After the mixture has been stirred for half an hour the tin is incorporated with it, and the mass is then heated for a further period of thirty-five minutes. The result is a malleable compound capable of taking a high polish and very slow to tarnish.

Whether on pleasure bent, or business,

take on every trip a bottle of Syrup of Figs, at it is most pleasant and effectively on the kidneys, liver and bowels, preventing fevers, headaches and other forms of sickness. For sale in 50 cents and \$1 bottles by all leading druggists.

When Traveling.

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POINTS ABOUT GEMS.

Old Things Shown by an Expert in Precious Stones. Dr. Kunz, the expert in precious stones, whose remarks on diamonds and American gems at the meeting of the mining engineers in St. Louis were recently printed, had with him on that occasion a couple of little wooden boxes containing a collection of rare gems which he had recently gathered in the Ural mountain region of Russia. He had stones more precious than diamonds, because they command higher prices. The most notable were the green garnets, as small as kernels of popcorn, but blazing with green fire. They are bought, not as curios, but by those who want to wear them, and sell for more than diamonds of the same size. Dr. Kunz exhibited some which were worth more than one thousand dollars apiece. Another curiosity in the collection was a blue topaz. The doctor exhibited rubies which glowed like live coals, and remarked of the American rubies that some of them had the red-fire color. He had in his collection the largest piece of Hungarian opal found since 1888. It goes into the private collection of a wealthy American gentleman, and will remain untaken. The mass of pink and green and cream-colored flame is three-fourths of an

inch thick and as large as the palm of the hand. His next curiosity from the Ural was a stone which, he said, might form the basis of very conflicting testimony in court. It is red by night, in the daytime it is green. Anybody seeing it only by daylight would be willing to go on the witness stand and swear that it is a green stone, while anybody else who saw it only by artificial light would feel just as sure it is a red stone. But while the garnets were the costliest of Dr. Kunz's collection, he pronounced the amethysts the most magnificent. These have the usual Ural characteristics of changing color from day to night. They are a rich wine-red color after dark and royal purple by day. They are found in forty localities. Some of the finest specimens measure two inches across.

HANGING BY MACHINERY.

A Colorado Device That Dismisses with a Bangman's Service.

No man hangs a criminal in Colorado, says the Boston Herald. The condemned man commits suicide without his knowledge, which result is brought about by a novel device.

A small space in the floor of the large execution room is raised about one-quarter of an inch by means of springs. Over this hangs the noose, which is conducted by a system of pulleys into the rear room and is attached there to a five hundred pound weight, which is held in place by a delicate trip lever. On the lever is suspended a vessel holding fifty-six pounds of water.

When a murderer steps under the noose his weight on the small platform causes it to sink. In doing so it passes on a rod, which is in turn connected with a chain attached to a plug in the bottom of the water vessel. This starts the water running, and when the tank is lightened fifty-six pounds the lever is suddenly forced up by a spring, the weight drops and the murderer is jerked five feet into the air.

On the wall in the death chamber is a white disk about eight inches in diameter, across which a red line is drawn. A black hand or dial starts on the journey around the disk as the water is released, so that the witnesses to the execution in the front room know the exact second the weight will drop, when the black hand touches the red mark.

This device has been used in the Colorado penitentiary ever since the secret law went into effect, and in no case has it ever failed to break the neck of the condemned, who are launched into the other world while the chaplain is reading the service.

FOOD AT THE NORTH POLE.

The Eskimo Never Wants Anything, and Provides for It Self.

There is no trouble about living in the polar regions except lack of food supply. No danger exists that